

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of my amendment be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

(Purpose: To make it illegal for anyone to defraud and deprive the American people of the right to the honest services of a Member of Congress and to instill greater public confidence in the United States Congress)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . HONEST SERVICES ACT OF 2006.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Honest Services Act of 2006”.

(b) **HONEST SERVICES FRAUD INVOLVING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 63 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 1351. Honest services fraud involving members of Congress

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Whoever knowingly and willfully executes, or attempts to execute, a scheme or artifice to defraud and deprive the United States, the Congress, or the constituents of a Member of Congress, of the right to the honest services of a Member of Congress by—

“(1) offering and providing to a Member of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, anything of value, with the intent to influence the performance of an official act; or

“(2) being a Member of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress, accepting anything of value or holding an undisclosed financial interest, with the intent to be influenced in performing an official act; shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

“(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

“(1) **HONEST SERVICES.**—The term ‘honest services’ includes the right to conscientious, loyal, faithful, disinterested, and unbiased service, to be performed free of deceit, undue influence, conflict of interest, self-enrichment, self-dealing, concealment, bribery, fraud, and corruption.

“(2) **OFFICIAL ACT.**—The term ‘official act’—

“(A) has the meaning given that term in section 201(a)(3) of this title; and

“(B) includes supporting and passing legislation, placing a statement in the Congressional Record, participating in a meeting, conducting hearings, or advancing or advocating for an application to obtain a contract with the United States Government.

“(3) **UNDISCLOSED FINANCIAL INTEREST.**—The term ‘undisclosed financial interest’ includes any financial interest not disclosed as required by statute or by the Standing Rules of the Senate.

“(c) **NO INFERENCE AND SCOPE.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to—

“(1) create any inference with respect to whether the conduct described in section 1351 of this title was already a criminal or civil offense prior to the enactment of this section; or

“(2) limit the scope of any existing criminal or civil offense.”.

(2) **CHAPTER ANALYSIS.**—The chapter analysis for chapter 63 of title 18, United States Code is amended by adding at the end, the following:

“1351. Honest services fraud involving Members of Congress.”.

(c) **AUTHORIZATION FOR ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL TO INVESTIGATE AND PROSECUTE HONEST SERVICES FRAUD, BRIBERY, GRAFT, AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OFFENSES.**—There

are authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice, including the Public Integrity Section of the Criminal Division, and the Federal Bureau of Investigations, \$25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010, to increase the number of personnel to investigate and prosecute violations of section 1351 and sections 201, 203 through 209, 1001, 1341, 1343, and 1346 of title 18, United States Code, as amended by this section.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I switched my vote from an “aye” to a “no” vote for procedural reasons so that I would have the opportunity as leader to bring the cloture vote back at some time in the future. I did support cloture, but for procedural reasons I switched that vote to a “no.”

What that means is that over the next several days, after talking to the four managers who are working together in a cooperative, bipartisan way, once we can put together a group of amendments and packages of amendments, I, in all likelihood, will bring that cloture vote back, and we will be on the glidepath to completing this very important bill.

Mr. DODD. Will the majority leader yield for a question?

Mr. FRIST. Very quickly, and then I have a statement to make.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I wonder if the majority leader might give us an idea because we would like to get back to the bill. As one of the managers, my hope would be that we can get back to it right away. I would like to see us clean up this bill and get it done as soon as possible.

Could you give us some sense of when you think we might do that? I know there are a lot of matters to deal with, but this is very important.

Mr. FRIST. I would bring it back right now if I had the votes. We need to have the managers working together and stressing the importance that when we start our business, we need to finish it. This is no fault of the managers. They have done a superb job. We had a totally unrelated amendment injected, I believe, for partisan purposes. I say that and put it aside.

We need to get back to the bill as soon as possible. I encourage the managers to get the list of amendments, continue working, and at the first available time when we are allowed to proceed, we will be on that bill and we will finish it. I think we can finish it in less than a day.

Mr. DODD. Would it be possible, since this issue is one that many Members care about—in fact, the vote of the

House Appropriations Committee yesterday was 62 to 2 on a similar provision, and I know there is talk of a resolution of this matter without ever going to the bill. But if we can agree that next week or so we might allocate an hour or two to do that, my view is we can move forward today and clean up this lobbying reform issue quickly—by agreeing to an hour or so next week to deal with this issue, if necessary, and we can move through this bill, I think, by tonight.

Mr. FRIST. What we have seen in the last hour is that there is a press announcement from DP World, and the Senator from Virginia, I believe, read that press announcement that “DP World decided to transfer fully the U.S. operations of P&O Ports North America to a United States entity.” I am reading from the press release.

This should make the issue go away. On the other hand, that was an hour ago. It brings me back to the point that the DP World issue and port security and the CFIUS reform is underway. The process is moving quickly. We don’t have to have votes on the floor of the Senate and disrupt your bill, our bill, which is another very important issue that the Democratic leadership and ours agree should be early. This body wanted to have working groups and, under your leadership, hold hearings and come to the floor, so we are committed to finishing it. We don’t need to be dealing with something which is being dealt with, as we see through press releases, through meetings with the company, and a port security bill that we are addressing in the Commerce Committee and the CFIUS process reform being addressed in Banking Committee. That is underway.

We don’t need to disrupt the bill. I think the distinguished manager and I are on the exact same page. Within several days, I think we will be able to work this out. I encourage the managers to work together so that when we bring it back, we can finish expeditiously. Next week, we have the budget and the debt ceiling and lobbying reform.

Mr. DODD. I thank the leader. I was suggesting that, if necessary, if we could agree to an hour or two after this bill is considered—and you may be right that we would not have to—then we might get to this reform bill today. That is all it would take to do so. We have taken the position that extraneous matters should not be on the bill.

My fear is—and I say this having been around here a quarter of a century—once you bump this off, the budget issue next week, immigration, and a recess for a week or two, we will not get back to this. If we don’t stick to this, other matters can take over—another explosion somewhere in the world—and this institution finds itself dealing with an issue that would not be the lobbying reform issue. I have seen it happen so many times. Here is an opportunity, I say with all due respect, to

give us that assurance, if necessary, and let us get back to the bill.

Mr. FRIST. With all due respect, there is no reason to give that assurance now. This is on a glidepath, based on what we have heard in the last 2 hours, to take care of itself. Again, it is through no fault of the managers of lobbying reform—on either side of the aisle—that we are where we are today. It is because we have had this extraneous issue injected into the system, which gummed up the works, and it is being resolved as we speak.

I just wish that amendment had not come to the floor. We were the first to put lobbying reform on the Congress's agenda. We were first to hold hearings, under the leadership of the distinguished chairmen. We were the first to mark up and the first to act, all as a result of the majority deciding that this is an important issue. The issue of Government reform is a key agenda item to help restore trust and faith in our Government.

I have to say that yesterday was a spectacular display, with the Senator from New York taking advantage of the goodwill that had been generated as we were moving forward together, which has led us to the point that we have had the cloture vote today.

I have been crystal clear throughout that when it comes to the port deal, Congress needs all of the facts. We don't have all of the facts. We are learning about them through press releases as we speak. But we are getting the facts by having this 45-day intensive review period, focused on the security issue. I think Congress is, at the appropriate time, going to need to make an independent judgment. Obviously, I don't believe it is today because we don't have the facts today. To take people in this body and say let's vote on something, let's kill the deal, or let's grandstand on it is just not appropriate for this body. Let's get the information into the system, and that strategy is underway.

Mr. President, we will keep working. We have a lot to do, and I look forward to staying above the issues of gumming up the system and let's move forward as we address these important issues that focus on restoring trust in this Government—lobbying reform, the bill at hand, and the budget of the country, which we will do next week, and facing the debt ceiling limit and taking appropriate action both in discussing and passing a statute that will raise that ceiling.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I thank the leader for responding to several questions. I appreciate that very much. I don't disagree. In fact, this may be very good news that we have heard in the last hour or so about the port security issue. Like all of us, I think the leader said it well. The devil can be in the details here. We are going to want to examine what was included there.

As I understood, my colleague from New York and the Democratic leader were willing to forgo offering this amendment that Senator SCHUMER has proposed on this bill for the simple assurance that, if necessary, they would like the opportunity to bring this up at a later time.

Many of us applauded that decision. In fact, the Democratic leader offered a unanimous consent request that would have done that, it would allow us to get back to the reform bill.

I see a number of my colleagues here. My colleague from Maine knows as well as I do these things can slip, and once they start to slip, other matters can overtake us, and we don't get back to the matter. We have seen it on asbestos and other matters. I am worried that will happen if we allow too much time to pass before we get back to the legislation.

I made the appeal earlier today to reach some accommodation among the leaders so we will be allowed to go forward with this bill that the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee worked so hard on and the Rules Committee worked so hard on. We did our job.

I think we can get this done in fairly short order. My colleague from Georgia was involved, as well, in the Rules Committee trying to put this together.

Again, I make the plea, I don't think there is any necessity at this juncture for the Schumer amendment to come up on this bill, but I think my colleagues can understand why the Senator from New York would like some assurance down the road, if necessary, that we can get to this particular proposal. It is not an extraordinary request. We do this all the time. That would allow us to move forward on this bill and try to keep extraneous matters off until we have completed the bill.

I thank the majority leader for responding to my questions. I am disappointed, to put it mildly, that we are not going to get to this bill. I raise the concern, having been here for some time and having watched the process work, that if we don't proceed quickly on this measure, then my fear is that we will not get back to it, and the window of opportunity to have done something on these critical issues will have been lost.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, is the Senate in morning business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Yes, it is.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from Connecticut, the ranking member on the Rules Committee on which I serve, and Senator LOTT, as well as Senator COLLINS and Senator LIEBERMAN, for their leadership on this issue. It has not been easy to get to the point where we are today. I am very disappointed we are not going to be able to finish this bill tonight, even though I am fixing to talk on it. I am not particularly happy with

what is in this bill, but at least getting through the process, having the debate is extremely important.

I am very hopeful we can get this issue relative to Dubai resolved, and quickly return to lobby reform legislation and complete it in short order.

I do think we have seen strong, very positive leadership out of the Rules Committee chairman and ranking member, as well as the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee chairman and ranking member.

In thinking about this bill, I am concerned we are losing sight of something I think is very important. And which is putting in place today, a system which deals with both Members of Congress and outside lobbyists and how they interact.

How lobbyist treat Members of Congress and how we react to lobbyists from the standpoint of whether you call it favors or being receptive to demands or requests of lobbyists. The system we have in place today is working.

What generated this concern that we have seen on the floor this week and the dialog we have seen over the past few months on this particular issue? It was triggered by one particular man who was very egregious in the way he operated his lobbying shop. He appears to have been motivated by greed, not just operating outside the spirit of the law, but outside the letter of the law, even to the point of committing some criminal activity. In fact, he has pled guilty, and he is undoubtedly going to jail. I don't know that for certain, but I think it is a safe assumption.

The system, as it pertained to lobbyist, worked. But what about Members of Congress? Another incident that sparked debate was the activity of some other Members of Congress, particularly Members on the House side.

I don't think anybody on this side has even been implicated in this at this point. But there has been some activity on the other side that indicates that maybe some favors were given to lobbyists for consideration. In fact, there has been a guilty plea to that effect.

What has happened to that Member of Congress? That Member of Congress is going to jail—for a long time. That is the way the system is designed to work. That is the way it is working and, unfortunately, all of that casts a real shadow on the institution that those of us who have been privileged to serve here know and for which we have such great respect.

There is a situation, I think, where we have a solution that is looking for a problem. I will give a classic example of that.

Some have said: We think lobbyists who are former Members who utilize the gym are having an undue influence or the potential to have undue influence. Therefore, we are going to ban former Members who are lobbyists from using the gym. We also are going to ban former Members who become lobbyist from coming on the floor.

What is ironic is there are two former Members of the House of Representatives today who are in jail for different reasons. But when they are released from prison, those two individuals will have the right to use the House gym and to have access to the House floor. Yet former Members of the House who served with great distinction on both sides of the aisle who have the opportunity to go outside and make some money in whatever chosen field they want—and they happen to have chosen lobbying—they can't come on the floor of the House and can't be Members of the House gym. This proposal is a solution without a problem, irrespective of how one looks at it.

I have a personal situation. As the Senator from Connecticut said, I serve on the Rules Committee. I talked about this a little bit as we were going through the markup and debating this bill. There are a number of Members of this body who have either spouses or children who are lobbyists. My son happens to be a lawyer who does lobbying, and I am very proud of him. He works hard and does very well. I was a Member of the Senate before he made the decision to become a lobbyist.

At the time he made that decision, I went to Members on both sides of the aisle, and I said: Here's my deal. I have to figure this out somehow. It was recommended to me by folks on both sides of the aisle that I needed to go to the Ethics Committee and detail the facts of the situation and have it tell me what we could and could not do relative to my son being a lobbyist and having the potential of lobbying me or having contacts with me or my staff.

Before he accepted the job, I asked for and received a letter from the Ethics Committee defining what contact was permissible. We have strictly adhered to the terms of the letter. There is no discussion between the two of us relative to issues. He does not lobby me. He does not lobby my staff. While it gets very ticklish at times when people he works with come to my office to lobby me, if he accompanies them, he has to either stand out in the hall or go down the hall to the bathroom. I am not sure what he does, but he doesn't come in to lobby me, it is a little bit awkward from their standpoint. But that's the way it has to work, and that is the way it is going to continue to work.

With the passage of this bill, what changes? What changes is that we are taking the Ethics Committee letter that I have, that Senator REID has, whose sons are lobbyists, that Senator LOTT has, whose son is a lobbyist, and at least a dozen or 15 other Members of this body have, and it codifies the terms of the letters. All of a sudden, it makes it subject not only to a potential \$200,000 fine, but criminal sanctions as well.

Figure this: We are in a very partisan political time in this country. Because of partisanship, often without merit, ethics charges can often—and it hap-

pens more on the House side, than it does over here—fly back and forth. For example, if I am at dinner with my son and somebody happens to be at a table next to me and think they hear conversation which they believe to be improper, but which was in fact not improper at all.

All of a sudden I am thrown in a situation where I have to defend myself, not before the Ethics Committee but from a civil sanction, as well as a potential criminal sanction. To say that can't happen in today's climate, I think we are kidding ourselves.

The same thing could happen to every other Member here. And I don't know of any Member who has ever violated the ethical rule relative to lobbying on the part of spouses or children.

To those folks who say this can't happen, let me tell you what happened to me this week, and it is a pretty good example of what can happen in these very difficult, these very complex, and these very partisan political times.

There is a lot of current discussion about Members taking trips on corporate aircraft. All of us—I assume all of us—at one time or another have used private aircraft. Congress has rules governing this practice which we must abide by.

I, like many of my colleagues, live in a rural area. I don't have commercial service to many areas of my state including my hometown. I also happen to represent the largest State east of the Mississippi River. If I want to go from point A to point B, whether it is on official business or on campaign business, it is often necessary to use private or chartered aircraft and I have to pay for it. The rules require it, and we pay for it.

The important point about it is, we disclose every bit of that information. We have a form we are required to file every year regarding every trip—where it was, where you went, what it was for, and how much you were required to pay for it, and how much you did pay for it. All of that is on our public disclosure forms.

This week, a group called Political Money Line issued a statement in which they said—of course, it was generated by the debate on the floor this week; otherwise it probably never would have come up. Political Money Line is, according to its statement, a company that provides comprehensive campaign finance and lobbying data to more than 500 clients, ranging from trade groups to the national political parties. So it has over 500 folks to whom they sent out not only a notice but also did some sort of press release or a release that at least got to the press which indicated that this Member of the Senate was the No. 1 user of corporate aircraft of all active Senators; that from the period 2001 through the 2005, I had flown over 60 times in corporate aircraft, according to the disclosure that I had filed, and that I had to pay in excess of \$100,000. To make it

exact, they said \$101,795 for utilization of corporate aircraft.

I knew there was something wrong with that because that would have meant that during the 5-year period, I would have had to have flown on a corporate aircraft once a month, every month, for 5 years. And I knew I had not done that. So we made inquiry of Political Money Line as to where it got its information and what information did it use in calculating these numbers.

First of all, they told us: We will be glad to give you that information provided you pay a \$2,000 subscription fee. I didn't think that was exactly right.

At the end of the day, they were cooperative, and they did provide us the information. As it turns out, just like I thought, the information was wrong.

The fact of the matter is that they said, according to their calculations, I had reported 60 reimbursements for use of corporate aircraft. In fact, they now have agreed that only 17 of those trips should have been credited to me. The other 43 reimbursements should have been credited to another or other Members of the Senate. And of those 17, on one occasion—I used corporate aircraft for a fundraiser in Florida—I sent three Members of the Senate down there and paid their way. That is a customary thing that happens. I flew commercial, but I paid their way.

The numbers were so out of line and so egregious that I don't mind telling you I got infuriated, and the more I think about it right now, I get even more infuriated about it because what happened was, once they put this information out, it was picked up by the New York Times. They did a story yesterday in which I was quoted as saying the solution to this problem is disclosure. And then they said, according to the Political Money Line, that I am the No. 1 abuser of utilization of corporate aircraft that is active in the Senate, and they were dead wrong.

Now the genie is out of the bottle, and the New York Times story has gone all over the country. It is in U.S. News & World Report. How do you get the genie back in the bottle? Well, you don't, and that is the unfortunate part about this. There was some irresponsible activity on the part of this group that, frankly, will be a political problem because the 527 operated by former Democratic National Committee individuals has already taken a shot at me as a result of this. We are all big boys in the Senate. We have been through political wars, and I always am prepared for criticism that may arise. But when the criticism is absolutely false, then it does infuriate you because there is no way you can accurately get information out once it has gotten out in the way this did.

When we talked to them about it yesterday and talked to them about it again today, they are agreeing to come back now and to correct their figures and to do a release. They have already done that. They have called the New York Times, according to the reporter

I saw today. In spite of the fact that they will do another article now, the Political Money Line folks have admitted to making mistakes.

In any event, instead of being the No. 1 active Member of the Senate relative to utilization of corporate aircraft, according to their calculations, I would be No. 28. Under their calculations, instead of \$101,000, it should have been \$18,000. That is how egregious this situation has become.

Now what happens in the case of this sort of thing relative to what we have on the floor today? Well, here is the way I look at this, and I have talked with people all across my State about this. Are folks concerned about Members of Congress and ethics? You bet. Is there anybody in this Senate who campaigned on the fact that, You send me to Washington, you send me to the Senate, and, boy, I will get lobbyist reform? I think the answer to that question is absolutely not. That is not a typical campaign platform. Does everybody in this Senate go home and talk about what is going on in Iraq? Have any of us campaigned on what is happening in Iraq? You bet. People care about that. Are people upset about what is going on relative to the ports issue and the potential for Dubai to purchase the managerial contract for the six ports in the United States? You bet. People care about that.

People expect us, as Members of the Senate, to act in an ethical way. And those of us who have this unique problem, whether it is relative to a spouse or a child, in my opinion, must have acted in an ethical way because I don't know of any situation where what has happened as an ethical complaint has been brought forward. People do expect us to be ethical, and those of us who have this situation work very hard to make sure we are.

So I would hope since we are not going to be voting on this matter today, we may not be voting on it next week—I don't know when it will come up again—but I am very hopeful that the Members of this body will think through this and that we will look at legislation that encompasses issues such as Senator McCain has talked about on earmarks. I think if you are going to reform Congress, which is what I think is most necessary, then reforming the earmark process is necessary. Senator McCain talks about this every year during the appropriations process, and this year I think he is getting everybody's attention. That should be reformed. There are other issues in this congressional reform we ought to pay attention to. But I will have to tell you that if we are going to have irresponsible acts by folks who are taking information we disclose under the congressional reform action, whatever ultimate legislation may come out of this body, and they are going to utilize it in a wrong way, then it may be time we looked at taking some action against folks who do that as well as having the potential to take action against Members of the Senate.

Mr. President, I yield back, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. THUNE). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CHAMBLISS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ISAKSON. I ask unanimous consent to address the Senate as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING ROBERT MOULTRIE

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, in a few weeks in my home county of Cobb County, GA, a pretty normal occurrence is going to take place for someone who is anything other than a normal person. It is going to be the 65th birthday of a man named Robert Moultrie. Now, 65th birthdays are becoming pretty common. I am pretty happy they are, because I am about to have one in a couple of years. But Robert is an extraordinary individual. I hope he is not watching C-SPAN right now because they are going to give a big surprise party for him, and if he is watching I am going to be in big trouble, but I doubt he is because he is a busy entrepreneur of unbelievable accomplishment.

He started a company in 1986 known as The Facility Group, and it was six individuals. Their revenues were about \$10 million. Last year, Robert Moultrie's company, The Facility Group, employed 300 people and their revenues were \$250 million.

He is an extraordinary individual, a graduate of Georgia Tech. He is a good engineer, as someone running a design/build firm should obviously be, but also a great benefactor to that institution, as well as Erskine College, where he led the \$30 million capital campaign a few years ago.

What makes Robert extraordinary is not just those accomplishments in business, which are great, but the fact that he and his wife are a little bit like the title of Bob and ELIZABETH DOLE's famous book, "Unlimited Partners," because they are equal partners in their journey both in business as well as community service. When Robert chaired the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce, the second largest chamber in the State in 2002, everybody thought Cheryl was kind of cochairman because she was as involved as he was. When they chaired the Heart Ball for the community, they set an all-time record in our State, raising \$600,000 in 1 night to benefit those who were fighting heart disease.

Girls Club, Boys Club, United Way, or simply a helping hand, Robert and Cheryl Moultrie have always been there. As I said, 65th birthdays are very common but Robert Moultries are not.

Our community is very fortunate to have had him there, and I am very fortunate to have the opportunity today in the Senate to commend him on his achievements for our community and commend him on this milestone in his life.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DEMINT). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ANTITRUST ACT OF 2006

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, the Judiciary Committee, which I chair, has from time to time examined the implications of mergers, acquisitions, and joint ventures among companies affecting various fields in the American economy.

Just a few days ago, a major proposal reached public view in the telephone industry. There have been major acquisitions and mergers in many lines of commerce, and there is special concern at the present time about the impact of acquisitions and mergers of major oil companies on the price of gasoline, which has soared for American consumers. I have been concerned about the actions of OPEC over the years in limiting production and undertaking joint actions which really violate the spirit of competition and increase the cost of oil.

I ask unanimous consent that at the conclusion of my comments, letters that I sent to the President as far back as the Clinton administration, and that I sent to President Bush, outlining the judge-made laws which have given OPEC immunity under our antitrust laws be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(See exhibit No. 1.)

EXHIBIT 1

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, April 11, 2000.

President WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: In light of the very serious problems caused by the recent increase in oil prices, we know you will share our view that we should explore every possible alternative to stop OPEC and other oil-producing states from entering into agreements to restrict oil production in order to drive up the price of oil.

This conduct is nothing more than an old-fashioned conspiracy in restraint of trade which has long been condemned under U.S. law, and which should be condemned under international law.

After some considerable research, we suggest that serious consideration be given to two potential lawsuits against OPEC and the nations conspiring with it:

(1) A suit in Federal district court under U.S. antitrust law.